**PATENT** 

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All of claims 51-79 are directed to liquid droplet aerosols of nanoparticulate compositions. Support for this subject matter can be found, for example, in original claims 1-10, 39, and 46. In addition, the claims were drafted to replace the abbreviation "MMAD" with the phrase "mass median aerodynamic diameter." This abbreviation is well known in the art.

Because the foregoing amendments do not introduce new matter, entry thereof by the Examiner is respectfully requested.

## II. **CONCLUSION**

Applicants respectfully request formal examination of this application in view of the above amendments and remarks. This application is now in condition for allowance and early notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding the pending application or this Preliminary Amendment, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at 202-672-5538.

If there are any fees due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: <u>July 5, 2000</u>

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